

REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2009  
CITY CLERK'S CONFERENCE ROOM AT CITY HALL – 500 CASTRO STREET  
3:30 P.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Siegel.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Committee Members:** Margaret Abe-Koga (arrived late), Ronit Bryant and Chair Jac Siegel.

**City Staff Present:** Cathy Lazarus, Public Works Director; Joan Jenkins, Transportation and Policy Manager; Lori Topley, Solid Waste Program Manager; and Steve Attinger, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator.

**3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Bruce Karney informed the Committee about a proposal he presented to Assemblyman Fong that he calls Solar for All. The aim is to change State law so renters and condo owners can benefit from solar installations like homeowners can through a process called virtual net metering.

**4. MINUTES APPROVAL—None.**

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 REVIEW AND DISCUSS STATUS REPORT REGARDING CITY'S  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS**

Staff provided an update on sustainability programs currently in progress and a time line for those projects to be undertaken in the new fiscal year starting July 1 and also reported on projects that are sustainability-related but not listed in the Council adopted Environmental Sustainability Action Plan.

**Committee Comments**

The Committee asked several questions about the food waste composting pilot. Staff explained that Phase II will add commercial businesses that produce a lot of food waste such as those with on-site cafeterias. Food

establishments are not being targeted for the pilot due to the difficulty of controlling contamination.

In response to a question about single-use bags, staff noted that this issue will return to the Committee for further discussion after the summer break.

### Public Input

Bruce England is excited about the grant for the pedestrian master plan and noted that Green Mountain View is pursuing the issue of changing regulations to allow grey water use.

Bruce Karney noted that the only community with an increasing number of solar installations is San Francisco due to the high subsidies offered there. He suggested Mountain View could increase the number of installations by offering a payment to current owners of solar systems if they get another Mountain View homeowner to go solar.

### Committee Discussion

A Committee member stated she is very pleased preparation of the Pedestrian Master Plan is under way and believes community outreach will be vital to its success. She also noted it will not be necessary to reinvent the wheel with the Green Building Ordinance as a lot of good work has already been done by others.

In response to questions from another Committee member, staff said that 200 reusable bags are being offered to Green Mountain View to distribute at the Art and Wine Festival and that the program to educate Public Works and Community Development staff about green building will begin in fall 2009 but will not be completed until summer 2010.

A Committee member hopes we can come up with additional funding to give away more reusable bags. Staff indicated that it might be possible to provide participants of the grant-funded energy audit program a reusable bag.

## **6. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND REPORTS**

The Public Works Director thanked Olivia Puerta for her year of intern service in Public Works.

Committee member Siegel mentioned the concept of training residents about environmental sustainability in a similar way that the CERT program operates. You train some residents and then they in turn go out and inform others, to get a

multiplier effect. The City needs to find effective ways to persuade thousands of households to want to make changes.

Committee member Bryant suggested the Council Environmental Sustainability Committee (CESC) establish a regular meeting time. She also requested that a discussion of the Bay-Friendly Gardening program be placed on the next agenda.

Committee member Siegel noted the new section of Stevens Creek Trail is now open and is being well used by the community and also announced that Green Mountain View will be handling recycling at the Art and Wine Festival.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

LT/9/PWK  
944-06-23-09mn-E^